

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

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E O 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON AIR LIFT PILOTS

MISSION HAS LOCATED FOUR AIR LIFT PILOTS WHO WILL BE AT THE
AIR LIFT CEREMONY ON SATURDAY, JULY 15. TWO ARE AMERICANS;
TWO ARE BRITISH. FRENCH PILOT DEJEAN, LOCATED IN RETIREMENT,
HAS CANCELLED OUT AT LAST MINUTE.

1. MR. JACK BENNETT (US). MR. BENNETT, 63 YEARS OLD,
FIRST CAME TO BERLIN IN THE 30'S AS A STUDENT AT BERLIN'S
TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY. DURING THE WAR HE FLEW FOR AMERICAN
EXPORT LINE AND AMERICAN OVERSEAS AIRWAYS (AOA). IN
1952-1975 HE FLEW FOR PANAM IN THE BERLIN SERVICE,
INCLUDING A STINT AS PANAM'S CHIEF PILOT IN BERLIN.
SINCE 1975 HE HAS BEEN A CONSULTANT AND DEVELOPMENT
ENGINEER FOR ROCKWELL INDUSTRIES IN BERLIN.
BENNETT WAS CONTACTED IN THE FIRST DAYS OF THE AIR LIFT
BY THE U.S. AIR FORCE. HE PUT TOGETHER AN AIRCRAFT AND
A CREW OF SIX OR SEVEN PERSONS. HE FLEW THROUGHOUT THE AIR
LIFT AND IS CERTAINLY AMONG THE PILOTS WITH THE MOST AIR LIFT
TRIPS TO HIS CREDIT.

BENNETT LIVES AT BERLIN 33, TRABENSTRASSE 68A.
HE IS MARRIED AND HIS GERMAN-BORN WIFE MARIANNE WILL BE AT THE
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CEREMONY.

2. MILLER HAYS (US). HAYS, LIKE BENNETT, FLEW FOR AOA
DURING THE AIR LIFT. WHEN PANAM ACQUIRED AOA IN 1952,
HE BECAME A PANAM PILOT. HE FLEW THE BERLIN SERVICE FOR
PANAM FROM 1958-1972 AND THEREAFTER FLEW THE WORLDWIDE
747 SERVICE OUT OF NEW YORK. HAYS RESIDES AT THE FOLLOWING

ADDRESS IN BERLIN: 21 NEUE KANTSTRASSE. HE IS NOT MARRIED.

3. GROUP CAPTAIN ROY M. JENKINS (BR). GROUP CAPTAIN (EQUIVALENT TO FULL COLONEL) JENKINS IS ONE OF THE RAF'S MOST EXPERIENCED PILOTS. HE IS NOW SENIOR PERSONNEL STAFF OFFICER AT RAF HEADQUARTERS IN WEST BERLIN.

JENKINS WAS THE FIRST BRITISH PILOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE AIR LIFT. DURING THE AIR LIFT HE PUT IN 2,000 HOURS FLYING DC-3'S AND DAKOTAS. SUBSEQUENTLY HE FLEW EXTENSIVELY IN C-141'S, LATER HE WAS THE FIRST NON-MERICAN TO FLY THE C-5 (GALAXY) AND THE C-9 (NIGHTINGALE).

JENKINS HAS A SON-IN-LAW ON ASSIGNMENT TO THE U.S. MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND. HE WAS BORN IN 1923.

4. GROUP CAPTAIN KEITH HEPBURN, 53 (BR). GROUP CAPTAIN HEPBURN IS A NAVIGATOR, NOW STATIONED AT THE OPERATIONS CENTER OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FIRST AIR GROUP OF THE RAF AT BAWTRY, YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND.

DURING THE AIRLIFT HEPBURN FIRST FLEW SEAPLANES AND SPECIFICALLY THE SUNDERLAND FLYING BOAT OF WORLD WAR II FAME. HE FLEW HIS SUNDERLAND FROM THE RIVER NEAR KIEL, WEST GERMANY, AND LANDED IT ON THE HAVEL RIVER HERE IN BERLIN. HE THEN FLEW FLYING FORTRESSES IN THE REMAINDER OF THE AIR LIFT, EACH ONE CONTAINING 10,000 LBS OF SALT. GEORGE

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